

Grumbling About CIA Intensified

Fund Secrecy Resented in Congress;

McCarthy Wants Year's Inquiry

BY EDWARD J. MICHELSON

WASHINGTON (NANA) — Hidden in the Johnson administration budget for next year is at least \$1 billion to be spent by the Central Intelligence Agency. That the sum, about 1.1 per cent of all federal expenditures for fiscal 1967, is concealed in the budget estimates is no secret.

The way it is concealed is known only to a handful of veteran legislators. Many of the others have long resented CIA's privacy.

The agency is the largest of several comprising the "intelligence community." For nearly 20 years, it has never been subjected to review by congressional investigators. Although the main work of the more than 15,000 employees headquartered in a huge building in nearby Langley, Va., has to do merely with research and analysis, the agency also gets involved in cloak-and-dagger work.

RUMORED BLUNDERS WHET CURIOSITY

Rumored blunders in the cloak-and-dagger department — espionage and government-toppling in the Middle East, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Viet Nam, Singapore and elsewhere — whetted the curiosity of long irate congressmen. As a result, pending bills to subject CIA to closer congressional surveillance are taken more seriously than in past years.

The major bill, which would set up a joint congressional "watchdog" committee for Central Intelligence, has been pushed in the Senate for many years by Montana's Mike Mansfield, now majority leader.

In the House the chief sponsor is an administration stalwart and ranking Foreign Affairs Committee Democrat, Rep. Zablocki of Milwaukee. Zablocki has long felt there should be a check on the

competence of CIA agents assigned to strategic overseas service, and on the care with which huge, unvouchered sums are spent.

In the past year, the House forces favoring the watchdog unit have increased as liberal Democratic Young Turks have offered companion bills. They would go further than tougher surveillance, however. Rep. William Fitts Ryan, New York, would strip CIA of all operations and limit its role to research and analysis.

Sen. Saltonstall made clear in an interview that he will stand in this, his final year in public life, against any change in CIA's status. He was chief sponsor of legislation in the Republican-controlled 80th Congress setting up CIA as a descendant of the Wartime Office of Strategic Services.

Saltonstall says a great power must have such secret intelligence services, including covert operations, because of conditions in the world today. He cites British intelligence, which goes back to the Wars of the Roses in the 15th Century. Funds used by this organization, oldest of its kind in the world, are known to very few government leaders. The name of the director of British intelligence is never made public.

Sen. Saltonstall says "our friends and allies would be antagonized and the lives of brave men would be jeopardized, if CIA had to come out in the open. We would lose the benefits of the exchange of information we now have with Allied states."

"Every meeting I have attended has brought forth frank answers to every question raised," Saltonstall said.

MCCARTHY WANTS SENATE REVIEW

Sen. McCarthy, D-Minn., a Foreign Relations Committee

member, is sponsor of a bill setting up a select Senate investigative unit to make the first review of CIA and report at the end of next January with conclusions and recommendations for overhaul.

McCarthy says CIA is the only federal agency that has not undergone such a congressional "review" since it was established during the Truman administration. The only investigation that resulted in overhaul was that ordered by President Kennedy following the Bay of Pigs fiasco.

Sen. McCarthy says Congress must check out the validity of rumors about CIA involvement in activities far beyond the original scope of the Agency. President Truman revealed in 1963 that he erred in approving legislation setting up the agency because he never intended to create a "cloak-and-dagger" service.

The secret of how money is funneled into CIA from other agencies is expected to be kept this year. But growing criticism of CIA promises to result in greater disclosure of how it spends money and under what controls.

PRIVATE PIPELINES

Critics of the supposedly super-secret agency see reminders almost daily of its activities. Some have private pipelines into CIA to employees who favor bills pending in Congress.

Newsmen also seem to have such pipelines. Columnists keep reporting unfavorably on the effectiveness of CIA's director, Vice Adm. William F. (Red) Raborn, USN, Ret. He is blamed for an alleged decline in morale. Research and analysis experts are said to desire the curtailment of cloak and dagger operations.

It is almost a daily occurrence for the press to have letters to the editors with pro and con attitudes about CIA, or statements from unfriendly chiefs of state around the world, blaming CIA for fomenting revolutions. A nutritional scientist who was discovered drowned under mysterious circumstances in a canal in Holland several weeks ago was identified as a Washington resident with CIA connections.

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